

We must be certain that the final agreement carries a legitimate chance for an enduring peace before we commit the vast American resources routinely mentioned as part of a settlement. Any meaningful peace agreement must be attractive to both parties independent of financial incentives. Further the U.S. must not force an untenable deal that delivers today's headlines at the expense of lasting peace.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4811) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4811, the FY 2001 foreign operations appropriations bill. This bill is more than \$300 million below current funding levels and almost \$2 billion less than the Administration's request.

The allocation of resources in this bill will not enable our nation to carry out an effective foreign policy to meet our vital national security needs. The low levels of funding in key areas of this bill will hinder our ability to respond to and confront ongoing development around the world. Many countries around the world are undergoing rapid change; our nation now has an unique and unprecedented opportunity—and indeed, a responsibility—to provide global stability through the spread of democracy and the promise of economic growth.

Mr. Chairman, in addition to failing our vital foreign policy and national security objectives, this bill fails in responsibly allocating resources towards other critical priorities. While the overall request has been reduced by 10 percent, the amounts requested to address the problems of infectious disease, poverty alleviation, access to family planning, and debt relief in the world's poorest countries have been cut in a disproportionate manner:

The bill underfunds, by \$390 million, our commitment to provide debt relief to the world's poorest countries. The Jubilee 2000 campaign for debt relief, which received bipartisan support throughout the United States and with a broad spectrum of religious leaders and organizations.

The bill also reduces, by \$42 million, funds to combat worldwide HIV/AIDS.

The bill hinders developing nations' ability to grow by drastically cutting funds for the International Development Association, the African Development Bank and Fund and the Asian Development Fund by 32 percent.

This bill also cuts nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, de-mining, and related programs by 32 percent.

Finally, this bill cuts, by \$385 million, international family planning programs; and imposes restrictions on foreign organizations

which are contrary to our long-held constitutional principles of free speech.

There are, however, provisions in this bill that I strongly support. This bill includes increases for the Child Survival and Disease account and the Peace Corps, for example. The most important priority that this bill funds well, however, is the maintenance of our commitment to the state of Israel and the peace process in the Middle East.

Mr. Chairman, foreign aid should not be immune from scrutiny and budget cuts; however, it should not be the victim of skewed priorities. Indeed, robust and well-directed foreign assistance programs are essential for our national security. The process of building stability around the globe my combating infectious disease and poverty, working for conflict resolution, enhancing democratization, and fostering the conditions for economic growth ultimately benefits us all.

Unfortunately, the allocation of resources in this bill fails to recognize this fundamental fact, shortchanges our foreign policy goals, and undermines our national security. I will vote against this misguided bill today and urge my colleagues to do the same.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2000

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently was not present on the floor for a vote yesterday, July 17th, 2000.

If I had been present for rollcall No. 402 I would have voted "yes," and I extend my congratulations to the Republic of Latvia on its 10th anniversary.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4811) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4811, the FY 2001 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. I am deeply dismayed at the lack of funding for such critical, life-saving programs as debt relief, HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and international family planning.

At a time when many developing countries are consuming 30 to 40% of their annual budgets on debt repayment, they are simultaneously depleting monies that would be better spent on health care, education, and economic development. The Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for FY 2000 established clear and specific criteria which developing na-

tions must meet in order to qualify for debt relief. These conditions include performing satisfactorily under an economic reform program, promoting civil society participation, implementing anti-corruption measures and transparent policy making, adopting strategies for poverty reduction, and strengthening private sector growth, trade, and investment. New governments in nations such as Bolivia and Mozambique are succeeding in their concentrated efforts to democratize and stabilize their respective countries, and have met the qualifying standards for debt relief. It is unjust to continue to punish the poorest civilians for debts incurred and for promises unfulfilled by former dictators.

Nearly four decades of economic development, particularly on the continent of Africa, are currently unraveling before our eyes. The proposed funding level in H.R. 4811 of \$202 million—\$42 million less than the President's request—is simply not sufficient to effectively combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic at its current growth rate. The global AIDS crisis is a threat of unprecedented magnitude, and it has been unsparing in its attack on the world's children. UNAID reports that more than 3.8 million children under 15 have already perished as a result of AIDS. An additional 1700 children per day are newly infected with HIV and join the 1.3 million who are currently living with the disease. The U.S. Census estimates that the life expectancy in many Sub-Saharan African countries will fall to age 30 within the next 10 years.

This indiscriminate plague gravely affects even children fortunate enough not to have contracted the disease themselves, by rendering them orphans—13.2 million to date. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has estimated that by the year 2010, there will be 42 million AIDS-related orphans, many of whom will be susceptible to abuse or recruitment into gangs or militia.

In addition to the horrific and exponential increase in suffering and loss of human life, HIV/AIDS inevitably will have an enormous and devastating impact on future economic development, political stability, trade and commerce, and international security. Since effective medical research and counseling intervention have been proven to drastically reduce the mother-to-child transmission rate of HIV around the globe, from the United States to Thailand, there is absolutely no excuse not to help fund these vital programs.

As world experts meet this week in Durban, South Africa for the 13th International HIV/AIDS Conference, we must do our part in this country and in this bill to alleviate the unimaginable suffering that HIV/AIDS is causing in the developing world.

A crucial element of reducing the prevalence of HIV/AIDS is adequate access to family planning resources and information. Pregnancy, childbirth, and unsafe abortions claim the lives of 600,000 women annually, primarily due to early and frequent childbearing and poor access to health care and contraception. Family planning helps prevent high-risk and unwanted pregnancies and reduces the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and life-threatening infections such as HIV/AIDS. The Administration's request for a \$169 million increase to USAID population assistance would likely result in 1.5 million fewer unintended births; 2.2 million fewer abortions;